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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : DATE ALLOWED: MARCH 22, 2006
NORIAKI OJIMA : EXAMINER: VIEAUX, GARY
SERIAL NO: 10/025,803 :
FILED: DECEMBER 26, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2612
FOR: AUTOMATIC FOCUS CONTROL :
BASED ON VOLTAGE, TEMPERATURE,
AND POWER SUPPLY

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant respectfully submits the following comments on the Statements of Reasons for Allowance provided with the Notice of Allowance of March 22, 2006.

The Notice of Allowance of March 22, 2006, sets forth the following Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

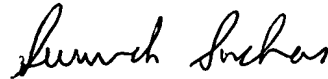
Regarding independent claims 1 and 11, the prior art is not found to teach or fairly suggest, the combination of existing elements of the present claim comprising a voltage detection unit which drives power supply, a temperature detection unit which detects an inner temperature and an outer temperature of the apparatus, a power supply detection unit which detects whether the power supply is an AC power supply or a DC power supply, a power-supply condition control unit which makes a determination as to a power-supply state of the apparatus based upon a voltage, a temperature and the kind of the power supply that have been respectively detected by the voltage detection unit, the temperature detection unit, and the power supply detection unit, and a focusing unit which automatically focuses a focus lens system onto a subject, wherein the gap of automatic focusing timing is varied by an output from the power-supply condition control unit.

Firstly, Applicant notes that the above-noted Statement of Reasons for Allowance is commensurate with original Claim 1. Allowed Claim 1 amended by the Examiner's Amendment and the claims dependent therefrom do not recite these same. Further, Applicant notes that, although the above-noted Statement of Reasons for Allowance is commensurate with Claim 1, independent Claim 11, which was also allowed, and the claims dependent therefrom do not recite these same features.

Therefore, Applicant notes that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is not commensurate with all the allowed claims, and Applicant submits that the above-noted Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not influence the interpretation of allowed Claims 1 and 11, and the claims dependent therefrom. Claims 1 and 11, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable for the recitations therein that differ from the features noted in the above-noted Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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